

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 23 are pending in this application. Claims 3 through 5, 12, 14, 17 through 19, 22 and 23 have been allowed. Claim 16 has been indicated to be allowable subject to presentation in independent form with inclusion therein of the recitation of parent claim 1. Claims 1, 2, 6 through 11, 13, 20 and 21 were rejected. With the currently proposed Amendment, claims 1, 3 through 15, 17 through 19, 22 and 23 would remain pending. It is submitted that a mere cursory review of the proposed Amendment would lead to a clear conclusion that the present application would be in condition for allowance. Entry of the Amendment and allowance of the application are respectfully solicited.

In response to the final Office Action dated September 28, 2004, this Response proposes to cancel claims 2, 16, 20 and 21, and amend claims 1, 11 and 13. By the current Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the recitation of now cancelled dependent claim 16. Claim 1 as amended thus is effectively allowable claim 16 rewritten in appropriate independent form. The remaining rejected claims, i.e., claims 6 through 11 and 13, are all dependent from allowable claim 1. Claims 11 and 13 are amended to change their dependency to claim 1 and to correct a spelling error.

Accordingly, allowance of the application is respectfully solicited. To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,
including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess
fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Z. Robinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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